

Office of Rep. Amo Houghton
31st District of New York



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DATE: November 30, 2001

TO: Ms. Gloria Blue

Fax Number 395-5141

FROM: Hugh Hatcher
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PAGES including cover:

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**Congress of the United States
House of Representatives**

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AND MEANS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA

November 30, 2001

Ms. Gloria Blue
Executive Secretary
Trade Policy Staff Committee
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative
600 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20508

Re: Steel Case - TA-201-73
Exclusion Request by Hope's Windows, Inc.

Dear Ms. Blue:

I understand that Hope's Windows, Inc., a company employing 250 individuals in my District, has forwarded you additional information today in support of its exclusion request. The section 201 steel case has been considered by the International Trade Commission. The USTR will consider the recommendations, as well as any proposed remedies, before the President makes a final decision in the case.

Hope's Windows, Inc. has requested an exclusion, in case a remedy is applied to their product. If there is no U.S. source for the custom steel product they import, then I believe it would be difficult to find any injury to that segment of the steel industry.

I have enclosed a copy of a letter dated October 16, 2001 that I sent to Ambassador Zoellick on this matter. I just want to once again indicate my total support for the request of Hope's Windows, Inc.

If I can be of any assistance in this matter do not hesitate to contact me. Many thanks.

Sincerely,

Amo Houghton

Enclosure

31ST DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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Congress of the United States

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COMMITTEE ON WAYS
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CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA

October 16, 2001

Mr. Robert B. Zoellick
United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20508

Faxed copy 10/16/01

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

Re: Steel Case - TA-201-73
Hope's Windows, Inc. - Exclusion for Hot-Rolled Carbon
Small Bar Shapes

As you know, the section 201 case, which was requested by the Administration, is winding its way through the International Trade Commission. I testified on September 25, 2001 before the Commission, as I have believed for some time that a section 201 action was the best way to get at the steel problem. I commend you and the Administration for taking this step.

I do not have big steel mills in my upstate New York District. However, I have a number of specialty steel companies, and they have suffered due to the imports. One went out of business recently.

But that is not why I am writing today. Because the section 201 case is so broad, in that it covers all types of steel imports, I am concerned an affirmative decision by the Commission could cause serious problems for another company in my District. That would be the result, if the remedies recommended to the President are so broad as to encompass the products manufactured by this particular company, Hope's Windows, Inc.

Hope's is an importer of custom steel products - without a U.S. source. The company, located in Jamestown, New York, manufactures high-quality steel windows, which are made from hot-rolled carbon small bar shapes. There are 24 different steel profiles used to make up many different styles and configurations of steel windows and doors. All of these profiles were designed by Hope's and are custom produced for the company by a specialized steel mill, Montanstahl AG of Switzerland.

Many years ago, the sections were produced in the U.S. However, in the 1960's, 70's and 80's the companies producing this product closed. Hope's would welcome a domestic producer. However, there is none.

To summarize, if the Commission makes an affirmative decision that steel products are being imported into the U.S. in such increased quantities that they are a substantial cause of serious injury, or a threat thereof, to the domestic steel industry, and makes recommendations to the President that would alleviate the problem, it is very important to Hope's that there is an exclusion for the product it imports. If there is no U.S. manufacturer of the imported product, then there can be no injury to the that segment of the domestic steel industry.

I have made this request to the Commission. But I wanted you to be aware of the situation as the case moves along, in case the Commission's recommendations do not exclude this particular product. I appreciate your help in this matter, and do not hesitate to call me if more information is needed. Many thanks.

Sincerely,



Anne Houghton